

# The People.

VOL. VI.—NO. 47.

NEW YORK, FEBRUARY 21, 1897.

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## AN ADDRESS

Boat and Shoe Workers,  
Especially Lynn Local No. 52.

### THE RIGHT ORGANIZATION.

A Member of the Craft Addresses his  
Fellows—Full Review of the Situation  
of Labor in General and the Shoe  
Workers in Particular—A Wise Pro-  
posed Amendment to Constitution of  
the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union.

Greeting—

The question of what to do with the  
unemployed is the vital one before the  
world to-day, and in the solution of that  
question the wage-workers are the most  
deeply interested.

Wages are being reduced, and con-  
ditions are getting worse, not because of  
the smartness of the employers to worst  
the trade unions, but because of the  
large number of hungry unemployed,  
who are begging for a job, many of the  
unorganized offering to work for any  
price, until the employers get sick of the  
question, and put out signs: "Keep out;  
no help wanted."

It is not surprising that these employ-  
ers (who shut their eyes to the fact that  
the smaller the wage the less shoes he  
can sell), should take advantage of the  
situation, and

CUT US DOWN

just because they can. If the situation  
were reversed, and employers were  
hunting for workmen at any price, we  
would probably secure better prices and  
conditions, and it would not be because of  
any particular smartness of the trade  
union either.

There are twice as many shoe manu-  
facturers and twice as much capital in-  
vested than the demands of the market  
require; hence

PIERCED COMPETITION

among these manufacturers.

The result must ultimately be com-  
bination, and the squeezing of the weak-  
est down into the ranks of the wage  
workers, and finally from the employed  
workers into the idle or tramp class.

The manufacturers cannot reduce the  
cost of the material or of the machine-  
try, because the capitalists who have  
these to sell have got their unions thor-  
oughly organized and maintain a trust  
fund.

They cannot reduce rents, taxes or  
interest, because these are dependent  
upon legislation, which is controlled by  
the capitalistic class, in the success of  
whom they are directly interested.

Their energy is therefore expended  
along the line of least resistance, and  
the full force falls upon poor, divided,  
over-crowded labor.

How shall we provide remunerative  
employment for the unemployed is the  
question. The Lynn Lasters' Union, if  
true to its past record, must

TAKE THE LEAD.

In proposing a solution, if we can se-  
cure jobs for the unemployed, the wages  
of our men and the conditions under  
which we will consent to labor will be  
easily adjusted, and life will be life, in-  
stead of a lingering death from slow  
suicide, caused by work and worry.

The unemployed need everything that  
labor produces. They are anxious and  
able to produce it. The country has

AN ABUNDANCE

of natural resources idle. Our inventive  
genius is unsurpassed. Why are we  
suffering for the necessities of life?

Simply because the opportunity to pro-  
duce is controlled by a few sharks for  
their own private gain.

We don't blame the sharks—one half  
as much as we blame the millions of  
citizens who allow the sharks to exist  
and control.

It costs as much to try and raise  
money enough to fight the money of our  
combined enemies, and pay for food for  
the unemployed, which we must do if  
we keep these hungry unemployed from  
scabbing our jobs when trying to right  
wrongs by means of the strike.

It costs us nothing to vote!

There are many of us on election day,  
and our enemies are few. The most  
successful trade union of the future  
must require its members to make use  
of their

VOTING POWER

as well as their money power and their  
manhood.

You have elected a labor man as Mayor  
because you are sore over the treatment  
received from manufacturers and from  
the powers of municipal government,  
who clubbed and fined you into obed-  
ience of the unfair manufacturers' de-  
mands. He can do little he is ever  
so good, on account of not having exist-  
ing laws in favor of his ideas.

We have the voting strength to con-  
quer the powers of government and  
place industry in control of the people,  
instead of in the hands of private cut-  
throats and combines.

How much longer shall we suffer  
want—want of work, want of food, want  
of clothing and want of life?

How many more of our fellow men  
must commit slow suicide by facing the  
inhuman conditions caused by the com-  
petitive wage system, before you will  
get brave enough to lay aside your pre-  
judice against collective ownership by  
the people of the opportunity to produce  
bread for yourselves and families; and  
put into the obligation of the Boot and  
Shoe Workers' Union a clause which

we do solemnly swear that we will  
not vote for any of the old capitalistic  
parties, and we pledge ourselves by all  
we hold sacred in life and by our hope  
of happiness hereafter, that we will vote  
for the Socialist-Labor party and its  
platform, and do all in our power to

expel from our ranks any member who,  
after fighting our enemies all the year,  
turns round and helps them into power  
and control on election day."

If we can approach the unorganized  
with a plan of action of this kind, we  
can

ORGANIZE THE CRAFT.

We have then unanswerable arguments.  
We can hold up ahead of our  
preliminary moves, organization, strike,  
boycott and union stamp the grand prin-  
ciples of the Co-operative Commonwealth,  
where no one need go hungry,  
or cold, or homeless or out of a job,  
only those who refuse to work.

We want new methods and new hopes  
ahead of the workers, to put fresh courage  
into the hopeless and disheartened.

The way is plain; the end an assured  
success. Our votes are so numerous  
that we cannot fail if we unite in this  
direction, and it won't cost us anything  
to try. Let us unite before our right of  
suffrage is taken away from us.

The popular idea among trade union  
leaders is to engrout off of work, travel-  
ing, sick and death benefits on to our  
organization. That means a large in-  
crease of dues.

When those who are so fortunate as  
to have jobs decide to contribute enough  
from their small earnings to care for  
the unemployed, they undertake a big  
job, and one that will be ever on the in-  
crease so long as the competitive wage-  
system exists. It means more chipped  
in collectively from our already small  
wage to enable all to live through the  
ever-lengthening periods of depression.

This is the story of the game of poli-  
tics as played in Kings County:

It is an interesting tale, worthy of the  
careful study of the people in general,  
and of sympathizing Socialists in partic-  
ular.

When you have studied the facts in  
connection with it, you will readily see  
the foolishness of the "one thing at a  
time" idea and the stupidity or knavish-  
ness of those who propose to help the  
people by any other method than a  
struggle on class lines.

There is a gentleman in Brooklyn  
named Edward M. Grout, well and favor-  
ably known to the politicians of the  
City of Churches and hunger. He was  
the standard bearer of the Ring Democ-  
racy in the last Mayoralty campaign.

He is a corporation lawyer of note, and  
made quite a name for himself after the  
trolley strike by his defence of the mem-  
bers of the 13th regiment when they  
were tried for the murder of young  
Carney, who was shot in Hicks street by  
the militia while engaged at his trade  
of repairing roofs.

This eminent citizen, for reasons best  
known to himself, conceived the idea  
of stirring up sentiment in favor of The  
public ownership of street cars, gas and  
electric light plants in the Greater New  
York" in "Glasgow plan," of course.

It did not take long to set the wheels  
of agitation in motion.

There is a large and ever increasing  
army of disgruntled office seekers in  
Brooklyn, who are ready at a moment's  
notice to jump in and work for any man  
or set of men who can promise them  
some parr in the event of success. There  
is also a number of well-meaning  
cranks who profess with tears in their  
eyes that they "are as good Socialists as  
you are." But, alas, you are not going  
the right way about it. They propose  
you should try "direct legislation," "co-  
operative colonies," "single tax," "muni-  
cipal ownership," "initiative and refer-  
endum," "government banks"—any-  
thing, in short, but the class-conscious  
demand of the workers that the capi-  
talist must step down and out, that  
demanded emphasised by the revolution-  
ary halo of the S. L. P.

I recommend that Local 32 propose an  
amendment to our constitution for the  
consideration of our next convention in  
accord with the above ideas, and that  
each member study the true

MEANING OF SOCIALISM

where the people produce for use, in-  
stead of for private profit. A body of  
men who are determined to work for the  
emancipation of the wage-worker by  
every known legitimate means until we  
are free.

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CO-OPERATIVE BASIS.

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stead of for private profit. A body of  
men who are determined to work for the  
emancipation of the wage-worker by  
every known legitimate means until we  
are free.

We do not need to give up any of our  
present weapons, but just make use of  
one new one.

The Socialist who becomes such a fan-  
atic that he decides to work against his  
class on the industrial field, and help out  
the unfair employer by scabbing a job  
deserves our condemnation.

The trade unionist who makes use of  
his political power for the benefit of  
our oppressors also deserves our con-  
demnation; only it has not yet become  
so popular to look with disfavor on him  
as it has on the industrial scab; how-  
ever, there is a healthy growth in that

direction.

Man was cursed by being told that he  
must labor; in the sweat of his brow he  
must eat bread.

There are four millions unemployed  
in this country looking for a chance to  
get in under the curse, so as to get a  
little bread—and they can't find the  
chance.

Every invention which enables one  
man to produce what it formerly took  
one hundred men to produce, ought to

LIGHTEN LABOR

in the same proportion, until the curse  
was nearly removed.

But the opposite is the result, owing  
to our system of industry. Each labor-  
saving machine increases the unem-  
ployed, and makes opportunity less. If  
the inventive genius of the future  
should enable us to produce goods  
simply by pressing a button, the most of  
the people would starve because none  
could get a job, even while it was so  
very easy to produce all which hungry  
humanity needs. Isn't it absurd to allow  
present conditions to continue, when  
all that is necessary is for the people to

OWN THE BUTTONS

and press them for themselves?

The employers themselves would be  
better off because their ability, if they  
have any, as they claim, to manage  
industry would be needed under  
Socialism, and that ability would re-  
ceive ample and sure reward. The fierce  
competition which causes them to lie  
awake nights planning how to come out  
square at the end of the year would be  
removed.

Many of our members object to  
Socialism because they are prejudiced  
against the name or have some personal  
dislike for those who advocate it, and  
if asked the simple question: What is  
Socialism? are not able to answer.

I kindly request you to read and study  
this subject, and thoroughly understand  
it before you decide and condemn.

In the meantime let each do all he can  
in the industrial field for the organiza-  
tion and financial betterment of the  
Boot and Shoe Workers' Union, so that  
when we reach that happy time when,  
united we enter the political field, we  
shall have no regrets for any past ne-  
glect of duty, and will have that respect  
for the cause and for each other, because  
of past efforts and suffering together,  
which will enable us to overcome every  
obstacle placed in the path of progress.

Yours for Right and Life,

FRED. S. CARTER.

Lynn, Mass.

## CAMPING

On the Trail of the Aspiring Politician in  
Brooklyn.

Mr. Edward M. Grout, of Fishy Capitalist  
Antecedents, Seeks Notoriety and an Office by Boozing the Glasgow Plan of Municipalism—He is Run Down by a Socialist.

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as played in Kings County:

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Published at 134 William Street, New York.

—EVERY SUNDAY—

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Entered as second-class matter at the New York, N. Y., Post office, on April 6th, 1891.



## SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

|                             |        |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| In 1858 (Presidential)..... | 2,068  |
| In 1860.....                | 13,321 |
| In 1862 (Presidential)..... | 21,157 |
| In 1864.....                | 33,133 |
| In 1896 (Presidential)..... | 36,683 |

Truth is tough. It will not break, like a bubble, at a touch; you may kick it about all day, like a football, and it will be round and full at evening.

## THAT PER CAPITA.

At a time when the gorgeous Bradley Martin ball was casting its shadow before it, and within the very week when that displayful event took place, the New York "Times" appeared with an article entitled "The Progress of Thirty Years," arguing that "the whining and grumbling among the American people in these days" was groundless, and seeking to prove the point with statistics. Its statistics are to this effect:

"In 1867 the money in the country was \$20.11 per capita; in 1896 it was \$32.86—an increased affluence of \$12.75 per inhabitant;" and much more to the same purpose.

The deceptiveness of "averages" as a measure of prosperity has long been demonstrated. If in a room there are 100 people, 1 of whom has \$1,000, and the remaining 99 have \$1 apiece, the average wealth in the room would be \$20. Yet the fraud upon the intellect of pointing to this amount as an indication of the financial status of each person in that room is palpable. Of this nature are the "averages" that capitalist official political economy reveals in. The "Times" average, coming together with the Bradley Martin ball, puts in hand a club with which to cave in the skull of the fraud.

The amount of money that the Bradley Martin ball has cost is variously estimated; the lowest figure is \$500,000. The number of people—hostess and guests—whose aggregate expenses foot up this grand total, is at the utmost \$20. On an average, these people must have spent \$2,000 a piece. Let us contemplate the fact.

The per capita of money in the country is \$32.86; the 250 Bradley-Martin-Ballers, each of whom had \$2,000, must have been each in possession of at least \$1,967.14 more than his "per capita" entitled him to, or an amount almost equal to the "per capita" of 60 other "per capita holders." To bring out these facts is equivalent to demonstrating three principles worth memorizing:

First—in so far as the "average" or "per capita" argument implies that a certain amount of wealth is ACTUALLY ENJOYED by each and every citizen, it suggests an unqualified falsehood. The Bradley Martin ball furnishes undeniable evidence that, in this instance alone, an amount equal to at least the aggregate "per capita" or "average" of 15,000 inhabitants, was confiscated by 250 other people.

Second—in so far as the "average" or "per capita" argument implies that a certain amount of wealth ACTUALLY BELONGS to each and every citizen, it points the finger to the fact that the working class is robbed by the capitalist class. The Bradley Martin ball furnishes undeniable evidence that, in this instance alone, an amount equal to at least the aggregate "per capita" or "average" of 15,000 inhabitants was in the pockets of only 250 other people.

Third—the working class supports the capitalist class in life and in luxury. The Bradley Martin ball was paid with monies that of right belong to at least 15,000 people who were not there, and were not allowed in.

Thanks are due to the "Times" for having trotted out the capitalist "per capita" fraud at a time so seasonable to knock it down and illustrate sound Socialist economics.

## SOME MORE HINTS TO SENATOR LEXOW.

The "Trust Investigation" is going on with undiminished clatter, but Senator Lexow is giving unmistakable signs of his being about the end of his tether. If things go on this way the "Investigation" will soon come to an abrupt end. We wish to come to the aid of the "Investigators." Already last week we dropped them some hints; we wish to drop them a few more today.

A feature of the Trust—and not the least interesting, at that—is the harmony it establishes between capitalists. The cat and dog, monkey and parrot exhibitions, these gentlemen give

of themselves during the strictly competitive period of their career, come to an end in the Trust. The Trust transforms the menagerie of capitalist wild and "warring animals into a veritable "happy family" show. But the fact remains concealed. None is more anxious than the befriended capitalists to allow the impression to remain that they are at war with one another. The false impression is necessary to keep the working class divided. The knowledge that the capitalists are actually united would be immediately followed by the union of the workers. No greater calamity could befall Messrs. Capitalists. This is the secret of why the shams of Democratic and Republican divisions are kept up by them. By making the working people imagine that the two parties are different, they can be played against themselves; and for this reason the capitalists mount opposing political platforms regularly at every campaign, and the two sets denounce each other like fishwives. Now to our hint.

Senator Lexow can prolong the "Investigation" indefinitely, and afford the people valuable information, thus pleasing himself and us, by putting the following questions to Mr. John E. Scars:

"Name the quantities of stock held in the Sugar Trust, the Standard Oil Trust and the Pullman concern by the Democrat Cleveland, the Republican Rockefeller, the Democrat Brice and the Republican Pullman?"

"What were you traveling between Chicago and Washington for during the Chicago or Pullman strike?"

"Name the Silver bugs who hold stock together with Gold bugs in the several Trusts that you are the lobbyist for?"

Senator Lexow could immortalize himself by putting and insisting on these questions, and on the further questions that the answers will suggest.

SOVEREIGN, THE CLOWN.

Mr. James R. Sovereign has once more meteorically shot through the public firmament. His fake organization of K. of L. so called, is so wholly collapsed that it offers no further opportunity for self-advertising; the silver mine baron's campaign has turned out so disastrous that its heap of ruined platitudes is now too low a stump from which to do any more hoisting; and his own reputation for knowing what he talks about is so discredited that he was running great risk of wholly sinking into oblivion. But he wouldn't. Somehow he got himself into the public press again. And, to draw attention to himself, he now turns up in the role of a blind Cassandra, up to date, seeking to horrify the people with blood-curdling prophecies. He informs the people that they have lost faith in the ballot, that he is the recipient of untold invitations to join a raw-bone and bloody secret society, and, like Artemus Ward's tragedian, he struts across the stage, shouting: "Berlood, largo; berlood!"

The people have not lost faith in the ballot. What the late campaign did teach was that middle class politics are suicidal: they scare the middle class itself, away, and rivet the large masses of the working class to the capitalists. It taught eloquently that the working class can be united and held together only on an outspoken revolutionary platform. The "magnificent" Socialist vote, all things considered, settles that.

In the second place, Mr. Sovereign is not getting any such numbers as he says, at least not in any such numbers. Mr. Sovereign belongs to a clown class that can't count. We know more such. Each of these looks at himself in the glass and imagines he sees a whole regiment, and says, and is silly enough actually to believe, that the "people" are all there with him. It is barely two years ago when this identical Sovereign was, according to himself, the recipient of "hundreds of thousands of letters" from all parts of the country, by working-men who were "flocking to the standard of the K. of L." One-thousandth of these would have kept the order up. Yet the thing has run down so low that Mr. Sovereign's salary had to be cut down, and there is no money coming in to pay even that little.

Finally, to imagine Mr. Sovereign on his feet in case of a real outbreak is funniness itself. At the first noise he will crawl behind Jack Haye's petticoat, and the two will creep under the nearest bed, fearing that the police are at last after them to demand an account of certain schemes concerning the bribing of aldermen to obtain franchises for wild cat gas companies.

Comrade Rudnick, of Catskill, Greene County, N. Y., was this week in New York and imparted some information that explains what becomes of the Socialist vote in the rural counties where the party has no organization.

For the whole of Greene County the official returns credit us only with 18 votes for Matchett. In the city of Catskill alone, however, 22 votes for Matchett were actually seen by our watchmen and caused to be counted.

The election frauds against the Socialist ballot of the county officials in rural districts have long been suspected. That they leave us at all any vote there is an evidence of some respect, and proves that a strong Socialist movement is the best preventive against fraud. There is very little cheating done in New York.

## FORESHADOWINGS.

The People's Party and the Year of Grace 1900.

That middle class politician, Geo. F. Washburn, of Boston, has issued a circular to leading Populists, with the aid of the capitalist "Boston Herald," and Uncle Sam's P. O., calling upon Populists to repudiate fusion and in 1900 demand greenbacks and government ownership of railroads. The "Boston Herald," the best friend the New England capitalists ever had, lends its assistance to this grand scheme, even endorses it, and publishes three columns of favorable replies from such old women as Senators Allen, Butler and Peffer, C. Vincent, Labor Fakir J. R. Sovereign, Wharton Barker and others. I once rode that hobby horse—jackass I mean—under the delusion that the above named were friends of the working class, and being ignorant of what capitalism really was, I tried to ride the jackass and succeeded for a little while in doing so. The government ownership of railroads would be a magnificent thing if they were run in the interest of the people who build and do all the work of running them. But until capitalism is destroyed the government ownership of railroads will be for the benefit of the capitalist government.

In Russia the government owns the railroads, telegraphs, telephones, street railway lines, several mines, four-fifths of the land, the savings banks, and control the paper money and national banks. In addition to all this the government has at many different times loaned money direct to farmers at a small rate of interest a la Sub-Treasury plan—Farmers' Alliance. The Russian government rents land to farmers and does many other paternal things. Do I need to ask the condition of the vast millions who live in that naturally rich country? Everyone who knows anything at all of Russia will tell us that the condition of the working class is most miserable.

As the people are growing more and more discontented in every nation it might be that they will leap from the frying pan into the fire in 1900 and elect a Bryan to the White House. Now, while the capitalists haven't the power to make bad times good, they do have the power to make bad times worse. And this they will surely do whenever it shall suit their fancy. The 500,000 floating Socialists in America—I call them Socialists in the sense that they do believe in much Socialism—ought to know for who and for what they are voting. Are they not satisfied that the times are bad enough? And do they not know that the leaders of the People's party hate Socialism? It is true that the leaders hate Socialism, and every week we have it direct from some of them. Tom Watson demands that the Socialists get out of the P. P. Allen, Butler and the rest do not weary of telling us that they are "agin" the Socialists. These middle class leaders of a middle class party hate Socialism because they wish to some day become capitalists themselves and ride on the backs of the working class.

It may be noticed that the great Rothschild family recently purchased one of the largest silver mines in this country. This may not be astray. But any man who has brains enough to think ought to know that whether we have Bryan and free silver, Watson and greenbacks, McKinley and gold, under capitalism the money, as well as all means of production and distribution, will be controlled BY the capitalists FOR the capitalists. It is a down-right waste of time to fight the effect of a cause. Capitalism is the cause of world-wide misery, without any regard to monetary standards, tariffs or taxation systems, and to fight the effect of this misery and not the cause of the misery is to patronize Don Quixote fighting windmills. When these Socialists once know that the difference between a paternalistic and a capitalistic government is just about nothing they will vote for a fraternal democratic government.

F. G. R. GORDON.  
Manchester, N. H.

## X-RAY-ALITIES

That Expose the Insides of the Social Structure.

THE FROG AND THE WATERMELON.

"Well, I'm elected," cried a little green frog, springing up on the very crown of the arch of that melon. "Elected! Ain't you delighted? Now we'll be happy. Now you'll flourish. See if you don't. I'll legislate your enemies on to the next patch. I'll promote your prosperity. I'll look after all your foreign and domestic interests. Don't you hear, I'm elected?"

"Oh, you are; are you?" said the melon, sleepy. "What's that, anyway?"

"Why, d'ye mean to say," cried the indignant frog, "that you havn't been trembling all over with excitement before Bryan would get in?"

"Me! No; who's Bryan, anyhow?"

"Not know about him? Why, you have narrowly escaped ruin without even knowing it—you ignoramus. That fellow would have sliced you up with a silver knife. But you are all right now my own country. Dry those tears of thine and rest that palpitating heart upon your President's administration bosom."

"Whatcher given us? Who are you? Whatcher after anyhow?" exclaimed the perplexed watermelon.

"Good heavens!" said the frog aside, "what dence stupidity is here! I am your new President, McKinley. I forgive you, poor fellow! They have broken your heart and crushed your spirit, and half effaced your great star-spangled intellect. Oh, the crimes of those Democrats! Three terms will not suffice to wipe them out. But wait till you see the change. Why, bless me, you'll be as big again by next September!"

"I spec' so," grunted the Melon.

The Melon had much to wonder at in the succeeding antics of the new President. One day he would measure his girth with a great reed. Another day he would be found measuring his shadow. Another day, taking his altitude.

"What are you doing now, anyway, Mr. President?" smiled the amazed Melon.

"Why, getting up statistics about you. I want our English friends and others who have gold to know how big you are and how ripe."

"I don't!" growled the Melon.

"Why, why, my poor undeveloped country!"

"Ah, get off!" shouted the Melon, with a vegetable oath, "or I'll roll over you. Git now!"

THE SPIDER IN THE FLY'S WEB.

A spider, tightly coarsened from a pressure of circumstances, began to feel disappointed. "Much outgoing and little coming in has spoiled my figure, and I am, though long engaged in politics, a most unhappy being," he sighed.

Yet he was attired in a suitable garb of blacky-brown, and possessed a pair of lustrous eyes, big and bright enough to make him happy, and also a partner in life. But alas! he had for years hidden his charms in a cell, and no neighbor ever knew him to have shared his beauties with a spider of the other sex.

There he sat, under his own porch, which was not festooned (as the pastoral descriptionists so often describe the trellised porch of the virtuous country toiler) by honeysuckles. Oh, believe me when I tell you his porch was festooned with last year's blood-suckers, all dangling in the lazy air.

"Was it thus," he murmured, with each eye alternately open for the straggling fly, "they promised me it would be when Hanna supped at this very table and solicited me for a generous contribution towards the great Republican Spider party. Is it for this that I have been throwing stones at, and killing all the small flies that came within reach of me which I couldn't eat myself? Where are those flies that might have been here? Where are those proletarian flies that were promised to me? Where are those big flies, the gentlemen of influence who undertook to deliver them? Where, indeed? For the shame of American Anti-Chinese politicians I fear they are gone to Canton. Oh, oh! Was it for this Brer Hanna took my check for \$100,000? Oh, ingratitude! Oh, the baseness of politics!"

In such a maledictory mood was my spider when his attention was called to a wondrously loud buzzing of many flies. Then he saw a copy of THE PEOPLE about a yard away, covered with a whole host of flies; and, moving among them like link boys in a London fog, he found they were a number of fire-flies.

"By the fourth plague of Egypt!" he cried, "McKinley is keeping his promise! Oh, my paradise, art thou come at last! business really about to revive?" He waited with watering nippers for more than an hour for that business to come. But still those little phosphorescent link boys moved like Sunday school boys drilling to shoot the home-born foreigners of labor unions, and still that buzzing-meal-y sound of flies in motion.

Now, when he had waited for a long time, thinks he: "I'll have a look!"

What a strange sight it was. There were about ten little candle-holders moving along between the lines of print (for common flies you know are very near sighted), and all the other flies which I have called common, for want of a wiser name, were climbing over each other's backs looking at the words, now, reading them!

Among many heterodox words heard by the spider were these: "They consume us, those capitalistic spiders," and "Democrat" is but a crooked way of spelling "Republican," and "Republican" is but a crooked way of spelling "Democrat."

"It is a wicked Socialist delusion," screamed the spider, forgetting all his business propensities, and calling out at the risk of losing every fly on the paper.

"What, then, is your web for, oh, spider?" said the largest of the flies, while not one of the others moved a letter away from their old enemy.

"My web?" replied he. "What, that extension before my door? You foolish creatures; if it were not for my intelligence and industry in spreading that protective net before my door the trade of America would have been long ago gone to the Falkland Islands. Have you no affection, you selfish brutes, for the trade interests of your own, your native land?"

"Yap!" (said the spokesman of the flies), but what about that festoon of bones around your domestic porch. Ain't they some of us, as was?"

"S' helup me," cried the nonplussed spider, "those bones belonged to foreign pauper laborers, who would have got into the country and reduced you to the condition of the old countries but for this patriotic web of mine, which you so maliciously and disloyally suspect. Let three of you gentlemen come along and examine it for yourselves."

"Let us all come," cried the new readers of THE PEOPLE.

"Oh, for heaven's sake, good gentlemen," cried the alarmed spider, "don't think of such a thing; the premises would not admit you."

But they took the spider by the arms and walked him on towards his own "Protection Castle."

I came away then. But the sequel of this story will appear in the issue of the DAILY PEOPLE next following that Presidential election when the S. L. P. shall be returned with a working majority.

PETER E. BURROWES.



## UNCLE SAM &amp; BROTHER JONATHAN

Brother Jonathan—I've been reading the sweetest thing I ever came across. Uncle Sam—Pass it over and let me participate in its sweetness.

B. J.—It is the "American Fabian."

U. S. (with a twinkle of the hand):

No, thank you; excuse me. Life is short; to spend that shortness foolishly

too long.

B. J.—Ah, there you have it. You Socialists are so violent you want to destroy everything. You insist on the class struggle. You want to abolish them. The Fabians are sweeter; they want to save them. It did my heart good to read that they want to save the middle class.

U. S.—Do you know what the middle class is?

B. J.—It is a class that is ground down by the big capitalists.

U. S.—And does it not grind down anybody in turn?

B. J.—Not that I know of.

U. S.—Is a small groceryman a middle class man?

B. J.—Of course.

U. S.—Does he employ anybody?

B. J.—He employs his help, I guess.

U. S.—How do they get paid?

B. J.—Wages.

U. S.—That is to say they do four dollars' worth of work and get paid fifty cents in wages. Ain't it?

B. J.—W-E-I-L.

U. S.—Don't Fabianize; yes or no?

B. J.—Yes.

U. S.—And that is the class that you—a workingman—and other such nobodies as you, wish to save!

B. J.—Is that really the middle class?

U. S.—Exactly. The middle class is a class of small capitalists. As such they have to compete with the big capitalists and get left.

B. J.—Would you leave them to the mercy of these big sharks?

# SOCIALISM.

Address Delivered Before the Present Day Club of Dayton, O.

By William Watkins.

Gentlemen of the Present Day Club—the era in which we are living will prove to be one of the shortest in human history. It began but a hundred and fifty years ago; so to speak, but yesterday; and the end is already in sight. It was an era characterized by the most tremendous revolution the world has ever seen, and this revolution went on developing for a hundred years before its scope and character were suspected, and even now, when it has nearly run its course, most people do not know that anything in particular has happened; they are still living in the eighteenth century. Swedenborg found some who had been dead hundred years, and had not found it out yet. The man who is absorbed in his own selfish plans, who is using society only to advance his private fortune, is dead to all social movements and may live through a revolution and not know it.

It is no wonder that the revolution had to wait so long for an explanation: its newness, its immense scope, its course slow at first, its increasing speed and momentum, and the fact that for the first hundred years of its course, the science of sociology was unknown, will account for the fact the world at large fails to understand it.

#### THE GREAT REVOLUTION

of which we speak is a revolution in the field of economics—in the production of what we eat, drink, wear and use. It hence affects the whole population of the countries where it is going on. It affects the foundation upon which rests the whole superstructure of human life. Until his animal wants are supplied; until man is supplied with food, clothing and shelter, he will live the life and show the character of a beast; it is vain to look for the development of human character and virtue. The social condition of a people can be traced to their economic state; the form of government and structure of society depends upon it. A change in methods of production will be followed by a change in social state, and this cannot fail to affect the government and the structure of society.

Our present state is not a finality. Evolution has not operated up to the present and then stopped, but is still working. The situation changes from day to day. Other forms of society have risen, run their course and passed away; ours will have a like history.

The history of the great economic revolution must be briefly traced.

**THE EARLIEST FORM OF PRODUCTION** was solitary and individual. One man, working alone, did every part of the work. The mechanic owned his tools, worked alone, made articles to order, and received the full product of his labor without dividing with anyone. If he employed help he employed another man, also a master of his trade, and in the very nature of things the employer was compelled to pay the employee wages which were, on the whole, equal to what the latter could earn by practicing the trade independently. All, or nearly all, the trades required the strength of a man, and all required the skill which was gained by long apprenticeship. The necessity of the skill prevented the competition of unskilled labor of every kind, and the necessity of considerable muscular strength made the employment of women and children in the trades impracticable. Thus the mechanic was protected from the competition of outsiders.

After studying and reflecting upon this state of things, Adam Smith, the father of political economy, formulated his celebrated law of wages, which is that wages can never fall below the amount necessary to the support of a family. This law applies perfectly to the conditions of small production just described, but has no reference or application to other conditions. The era in which this was the only form of production lasted uncounted ages, and it continued to be the only method down to about the middle of the sixteenth century. During all this time all social conditions corresponded to and grew out of this state of things. The mode of production was slow, costly and laborious. The people were ignorant, rude and poor. A few were rich, but there were no capitalists.

**THE PERIOD OF MANUFACTURES** followed, by which is meant the production of articles by hand labor associated and divided, the division of labor without the use of machinery. A number of men worked together, each doing a part of the work necessary to produce the finished article, and thus accomplished much more than could be accomplished by each working separately. An enterprising mechanic would take a shop, employ a number of journeymen, assign to each the part of the work which he liked best and could do, could pay each man as much as he could earn by the independent practice of his trade and still receive a considerable profit from the extra amount of work turned out.

Here a new principle was introduced into the industrial world. Up to that time there had been no gain in production except by personal toil. But by this scheme the master receives a value created by others, and this is done by organizing labor by making it social and interdependent. This is the small end of the wedge which in later times split economic society into the two, now widely separated, classes of employer and employee. This plan began the process of reducing the independent to economic dependence, that is, to slavery.

The employees in these shops practiced but a part of the trade, which it had cost them years to learn, and that part could be learned in much less time than the whole trade. The place of any of these journeymen could be supplied by a boy of say 16, who could learn the part assigned to him in a few days, weeks, or months at most, and who, until he reached the age of 21, would be delighted to receive half man's wages.

This form of production appeared in what the geologist would call the eocene period, the dawn of the present, when the forces which have formed our present society were mustering their strength and overcoming various obstacles necessary to be removed in order that society might develop into its present form.

It should be noted that these ages are not sharply defined periods. The age of small productions is the age when it was the only form of production, and by the age of manufactures we mean the age when division of labor began to be an important factor in production. Both still exist to-day, but have sunk into insignificance.

#### THE AGE OF CAPITALISTIC PRODUCTION

The great industrial revolution which brought in the age of capitalistic production is the result of a series of inventions beginning about the middle of the eighteenth century, by which such marked effects have been produced that the economic world of to-day is farther removed from that of 1750 than that of 1750 is from the age of the Pharaohs. Changes in capital and its management have produced the most significant changes in labor. Capital, taking advantage of the inventions in industry and in transportation, has been able to extend production and carry it on in an ever increasing ratio. This production on a vast scale, based upon a far-reaching division of labor, has become essentially social. Capitalism has passed out of the shop and entered the factory. The master workman of yore has given place to the "captain of industry," journeymen and apprentices to regiments of wage-workers. Production becomes every day more socialized. Of old, the workman owned his tools; now the capitalist owns the machine. The master and the journeyman worked together, but the modern employer does not know the employee by sight or name. Then the journeyman could hope to become a master, but now the factory worker cannot hope to become a factory owner.

#### MONOPOLY.

We have seen that in former ages all the mechanic arts were open to the youth who had nothing but his hands. No capital was needed; he had simply to serve an apprenticeship, to learn the trade, and he was assured that his skill and industry would procure him a living.

Now, whoever would enter into the business of production must be possessed of an ample capital. Only a few are rich enough to build and equip a factory with modern machinery, and those who do so are seeking, not a living, but wealth, measured not by ten thousands, but by millions.

In the age of small production the producer was his own employer, and all the value added to the raw material by his labor was his; now he is a wage-worker, and must accept his employer's terms.

His wages are fixed by the law of supply and demand; the more men offer their labor for sale the lower the wages.

His power to labor—his life—has become a commodity, and is the cheapest thing in the market.

He is unable to trace his part in the manufactured article, is in the dark as to its value, and quite in the power of his employer. For his work he is allowed only about one-fourth of what he produces. If a thousand dollars' worth of raw material is worked up into manufactured products worth five thousand dollars, that is, if four thousand dollars of value has been produced by the process of manufacture, then one thousand dollars of that four thousand is the share of labor, the wages paid, and three thousand the share of capital. The laborer does the work and the capitalist takes the lion's share of the product.

We now see where the great fortunes amassed in manufacturing come from. They are composed of unpaid labor. We are not now concerned with the right and wrong of this course, though that is well worth considering but only with its economic effects. To the capitalist who says that he does so because he cannot help it, we reply: "Good sir, you take our capitalistic system for a scheme by which you can gain unearned money; you mistake it. It is a scheme as much against you as against the wage-worker; you know that you are in danger of losing your capital, but you don't know that you must lose it; there is no other way; your capital must become a part of some larger competing capital, and that of some still larger one, until all is concentrated in a very few hands. Take ten years and see it."

#### THE EFFECT OF THOSE TO THREE SIXTEEN.

The division of the product of labor, one-fourth to the worker and three-fourths to the capitalist, is fatal to the capitalistic system itself, and produces the very state of things under which we now suffer. The manufacturer does not make goods for his own use and enjoyment, but for sale. He must have a market for his wares; anything that destroys his market breaks him. The wage-workers of the United States form a majority of the population, and are daily increasing in numbers by accessions from the middle class, who find independent existence impossible. Now, if the wage-working class receive, as the census of 1890 shows, only one-fourth of the value added to the raw material for their labor, it is plain that they as a class can buy not more than one-fourth of that which is produced. But they cannot do that, for the manufacturer adds to the cost of the raw material, and the jobber, the wholesaler and the retailer must have their profits before the wage-worker can buy any manufactured article. Then, too, the wage-worker has to buy a number of things which are not manufactured articles, thus diminishing the amount he can spend for manufactures. We see, then, that more than one-half the nation can absorb only from one-tenth to one-eighth of what is made. The remainder of the nation, impoverished, in a great degree by the poverty of the wage-workers, cannot absorb the other seven-eighths, or nine-tenths, of the goods produced, and hence we see the market glutted with goods that staple articles used and needed by the mass of the people are offered at less than cost of production. Merchants become bankrupt, mills and factories shut down, banks fail, capital to the amount of millions is lost, and does not return to the people, but is absorbed in larger capitals; millions are thrown out of work; misery, vice and crime prevail in the land.

Our whole election system has become so utterly debauched that elections are simply farcical. There has not been a contested election in this city during the last five years that has not embraced in its returns tens of thousands of fraudulent votes. Under the leadership of Lobbyist Martin, who was early trained in the worst attributes of the ballot-thief, our elections have become more and more lawless with each year, until to-day they are simply monstrous. This indictment, you will kindly note, lies against the City of Brotherly Love, where the Declaration of Independence was signed and where the Liberty Bell is situated, not against the town of Red Dog, Idaho.

The indictment is strictly true, and might, with a change of name, with equal truthfulness have been written of almost any large city in this country.

All the schemes of "reform" that I have memory of were directed against this debauchery of elections, but no scheme of reform that I ever heard of proposed to go to the root of the matter and discover the real cause of the evil. Loud demands for the arrest and conviction of the petty criminals have frequently been made, but I have never heard of any of the able editors of our great journals calling for an inquiry into the reasons why our elections are tampered with, or asking for the names of the persons in whose interest the dirty work was done, or instituting a search for the people who foot the bills for the "work" performed.

This is what should be done were there any honesty or sincerity in these multitudinous "reform" movements, and because it has never been done I have not hesitated to characterize them all as being as fraudulent as the elections they pretended to purify. Doubtless many of the people who engage in these movements were honest enough, but ignorance of the real nature of the wrongs complained of have led many to leave no choice other than sinking all human rights in our business interests, or else sinking all business interests in the rights of the people. This, the only possible reform, will never be accomplished by those who have a stake in Capitalism. It will be carried out only by those who know and feel that they are the victims of our "business interests"; by those who know and teach that the Republican form of government bequeathed to us by our fathers has been undermined and well-nigh destroyed by a traitor class; by those who have discovered the impossibility of being at one and the same time a free citizen and a slave workman. The free laborer is the father, not the son, of the free citizen.

S. L. P.  
Philadelphia, Feb. 17.

#### S. L. P.

Gives John Wanamaker Another Thorough Dubbing.

Sir—I presume that you are cognizant of the attempt about to be made by certain citizens of Philadelphia to purify local politics. Is it not wonderful, the amount of purification that our politics—local and national—require? The memory of the oldest inhabitant goes not back to the time when "reform" of some kind or other was not demanded by certain political elements. Ever louder grows the cry for a "change." The more "reform" our political system has undergone, the more is demanded. What is the nature of this ailment of the body politic which, everyone admits, requires treatment, but which up to the present time has not yielded to any of the efforts put forth to eradicate it? A glance at a single symptom will show its real character to any sensible man.

And here is the symptom, as diagnosed by that reliable political doctor, Colonel A. K. McClure, editor of the "Philadelphia Times":

"Our whole election system has become so utterly debauched that elections are simply farcical. There has not been a contested election in this city during the last five years that has not been a masterpiece of corruption. The ballot may be corrupted in an infinite number of ways; merely miscounting or throwing out votes are among the least of them. The multiplication of needless political offices, for the purpose of creating a hireling political army; the gerrymandering of election districts at the behest of certain corporate or "business" interests; lobbying (bribery) in legislation; the passage of laws by false representation and stealth; the gradual restriction of the franchise under one pretense and another; the stealthy encroachment by the judiciary upon the legislative power, and, above all, the use of power to compel the people to vote under dictation, are as much prostitutions of the ballot as is the counting of fictitious votes."

All these crimes against the ballot have been committed for years by the "business interests" of the country. The money paid for corrupt legislation and the support of lobbies has all been supplied by our "business interests," or, to be precise, by our "business men." The politics and legislation of the country have been dictated by our "business interests" exclusively. The laws and the Constitution have been interpreted with an eye single to the interests of business. Our business interests having in all things been paramount, are directly responsible for every organic evil that afflicts the American people to-day, and the responsibility cannot be evaded.

All work of "reform" that leaves untouched the "business" interests of the country is absolutely worthless. Driven by inexorable fate, the logic of events will leave no choice other than sinking all human rights in our business interests, or else sinking all business interests in the rights of the people. This, the only possible reform, will never be accomplished by those who have a stake in Capitalism. It will be carried out only by those who know and feel that they are the victims of our "business interests"; by those who know and teach that the Republican form of government bequeathed to us by our fathers has been undermined and well-nigh destroyed by a traitor class; by those who have discovered the impossibility of being at one and the same time a free citizen and a slave workman. The free laborer is the father, not the son, of the free citizen.

S. L. P.  
Philadelphia, Feb. 17.

corporation at a large salary, and the interests of the corporation compel me to act as I have."

Here we discover the whereabouts of our stolen goods, Mr. Wanamaker! With this clew every crime, every ballot thief, may be unerringly traced. Our Councils, full of Traction councilmen, though the people hate Traction with a deadly hatred; our Legislature full of corporation legislators, though the people are bitterly, but as yet blindly, opposed to corporations; our Congress full of corporation attorneys, though elected to guard the people against corporate crime and greed—show in their character, personnel and work the real cause of the pollution of the ballot.

The ballot may be corrupted in an infinite number of ways; merely miscounting or throwing out votes are among the least of them. The multiplication of needless political offices, for the purpose of creating a hireling political army; the gerrymandering of election districts at the behest of certain corporate or "business" interests; lobbying (bribery) in legislation; the passage of laws by false representation and stealth; the gradual restriction of the franchise under one pretense and another; the stealthy encroachment by the judiciary upon the legislative power, and, above all, the use of power to compel the people to vote under dictation, are as much prostitutions of the ballot as is the counting of fictitious votes.

Total income ..... \$37.80

EXPENSES.—

Dec. 27, 1896—To G. B. Benham, 1,000 cards ..... \$3.90

Jan. 11, 1897—To Mrs. McCullough, type-writing ..... 3.00

Jan. 11—To E. Hecht, secretary, postage ..... 60

Jan. 11—To G. B. Benham, literature, Section Stockton ..... 2.70

Jan. 11—To National Ex. Commit., for 200 stamps ..... 10.00

Jan. 18—To G. B. Benham, per Wells Fargo Company ..... 1.00

Jan. 18—To agitation for Section Benkly ..... 60

Jan. 18—To Comrade Wilkins, as per agreement ..... 10.00

Total expenses ..... \$32.15

Cash on hand Jan. 31, 1897 ..... \$5.65

STAMP ACCOUNT.

Dec. 27—On hand ..... 125

Sold during January ..... 125

Balance ..... 71

Received from N. E. C. ..... 200

On hand February 1, 1897 ..... 271

H. F. SAHLENDER, Treas., Cal. State Ex. Com.

#### PARTY NEWS.

Activity of Militant Socialists East, West, North and South.

##### National Executive.

Regular meeting held Feb. 16, 1897; Comrade Reed in the chair; minutes of the previous meeting read and approved. Communications read from Baltimore, Chicago, Philadelphia, St. Louis and San Francisco.

C. B. COPP, Rec. Secy.

##### California

Financial Report of California State Executive Committee for the month of January, 1897:

##### INCOME.

Brought forward from Dec. 27, 1896; balance on hand ..... \$25.30

Dec. 27, 1897—15 due stamps, secretary, Sacramento ..... 1.50

Jan. 11, 1897—50 due stamps, secretary, City Central Committee ..... 5.00

Jan. 18—50 due stamps, City Central Committee ..... 5.00

Jan. 18—10 due stamps, Section Benkly ..... 1.00

##### TOTAL INCOME.

Total income ..... \$37.80

##### EXPENSES.

Dec. 27, 1896—To G. B. Benham, 1,000 cards ..... \$3.90

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Jan. 11—To G. B. Benham, literature, Section Stockton ..... 2.70

Jan. 11—To National Ex. Commit., for 200 stamps ..... 10.00

Jan. 18—To G. B. Benham, per postage ..... 35

Wells Fargo Company ..... 1.00

Jan. 18—To agitation for Section Benkly ..... 60

Jan. 18—To Comrade Wilkins, as per agreement ..... 10.00

we are responsible for such articles as the above and give the weight of the Massachusetts Socialist movement to the vicious and weak trash that appears in it from week to week.

If Mr. Sanderson, of Cave Mills, Tennessee, wishes to publish a paper—yes, even an alleged Socialist paper—no one here will say him nay. But we give him notice, his aiders and abettors here too, that he cannot foist his spurious goods on us as a Massachusetts product.

X.

BOSTON, Feb. 15.—Ernest R. Dittrick, a member of the German Section of the Socialist Labor party of Boston, died at his home, 991 Tremont street, Feb. 8th, aged 71 years.

Comrade Dittrick, with ten other workmen, more than twenty years ago organized the first Section of the Socialist Labor party in Massachusetts—The German Section of Boston.

The funeral occurred Wednesday afternoon, and was attended by members of the party, delegations from the German Workingmen's Association, the Turners and others. He was an earnest, sincere and good man, and esteemed by all who knew him. The flag on the German Workingmen's Building on Amory street, Roxbury, was hoisted at half mast in honor of his memory. He remained a member of the party till the last, and prior to his confinement to his home seldom or never missed a meeting of the Section.

B.

## New York.

LONG ISLAND CITY, Feb. 7.—A regular meeting of the Queens County Committee, S. L. P., was held this day, with Comrade S. Kopald in the chair.

The following Comrades presented their credentials as members of the committee: John Monson, Section Woodhaven; W. D. McHeath, Section Woodhaven; S. Kopald, Section L. I. City; Gustave Richter and G. Carvel, Section Glendale; which, on vote being taken, were received.

Reports of Delegates—Comrade Woodruff made favorable report of the condition of Sections in county; received and accepted.

Report of Treasurer Hahn read and referred to Auditing Committee, composed of Comrades Munson and Exlow, who made a favorable report, which was received.

Reports on the Condition of Sections—Comrade Hahn reports Section Glen-dale in prosperous condition, and opposed to giving up charter. Comrade Kopald reports withdrawal of delegates from the Greater New York convention, and also, as soon as favorable, to organize new branches in the four remaining wards in Long Island City.

Comrade McHeath reported Section Woodhaven as progressing and taking active steps to advance Socialism in its district. Comrade Exlow reports Section College Point as favorable and progressive. Comrade McHeath moved that the county organizer be authorized to visit Sections Woodside and Metropolitan, and arrange and settle their difficulties; carried. Comrade Long, Wykoff Heights, reports. Comrade Hahn moved that the Secretary be authorized to write to the "Volks Zeitung," 184 William street, New York city, to allot a space in said paper to Queens County; carried. On motion by Comrade McHeath, that the traveling expenses of the officers of Queens County be paid by Queens County Committee; carried. Committee adjourned to meet on the first Sunday in March.

JOSEPH P. JONES,

Sec. of Committee, Richmond Hill, Queens County, N. Y.

ALBANY, Feb. 14.—At the last regular meeting of Section Albany, the following officers were elected: J. E. Alexander, organizer; Geo. DuBois, recording secretary; Gus Lachman, financial secretary; Henry Stasius, treasurer; J. C. Wieland, librarian; Joseph Reiter, Christian Basler, John Waldvill, Finance Committee.

Section matters should be addressed to Alexander, 65 Livingston avenue. My address is still as above.

Fraternally, WIELAND.

NEW YORK, Feb. 14.—The last regular meeting of the Young American Socialists was held on Sunday, Feb. 14, 1897, at the club rooms of the Painters' and Paper-Hangers, 128 Allen street. Comrade Glisch presided, and the following officers were elected: Irving J. Turner, financial secretary; Ungar, recording secretary.

NATHAN J. GILLMAN,

Recording Sec.

N. Y. CITY.—The 23d Assembly District, S. L. P., will hold a mass meeting at King's Hall, No. 2105 2d avenue, between 10th and 109th streets, on Saturday evening, Feb. 20. An address will be delivered on the "Aims and Objects of Socialism." Admission free.

N. Y. CITY.—Lectures on Socialism will take place next Sunday, Feb. 21, at 8 p. m., as follows: At Stuyvesant Hall, 251 E. 17th street, between 1st and 2d avenues, where J. Allman will lecture on "A Revolutionary Poet." At Hudson Building, corner of 37th street and 8th avenue, where L. A. Malkin will speak on "Our Critics." At Webster Hall, corner of 140th street and 3d avenue, where C. H. Furman will lecture on "Conventional Lies vs. Socialism;" and also at Cosmopolitan Hall, corner of Catherine street and East Broadway, where H. Weiss will speak on "Objections to Socialism Answered." There will also be a meeting in the afternoon, at 2:30 p. m., at the club rooms of the Socialist Literary Society, 161 Monroe street.

These lectures are free to all.

L. ABELSON.

N. Y. CITY.—The New York Socialist Literary Society held their regular meeting on Saturday evening at their club rooms, No. 161 Monroe street, with Comrade Shatzkin acting as chairman. Reports of committees were accepted; four new members were admitted; the installation of officers took place. The following were installed: Joe Marcus, financial secretary; Christenfeld, recording secretary; Levitt, treasurer; M. B. Shatzkin, corresponding secretary. The House Committee consists of Katz, Eisenberg, Gevitzman, Boonenbaum, Schiff, Oberle, and Kirner; librarians, Hoch and Reich; lecture agent, L. Bernstein.

We call the attention of all the members to attend the series of lectures which are delivered by Comrade Long every Saturday night. Next Sun-

day afternoon Comrade Allman lectures. Subject: "St. Simon and Babœuf." The public is invited.

## THE DAILY PEOPLE

\$50,000 FUND.

Amount Pledged down to February 17th, 1897.

\$3,650.

At the meeting of the Daily People Committee, held Sunday, the 20th of December, 1896, an important step was taken from which, if a daily Socialist

paper is at all possible within a reasonable time, the consummation will be reached. The committee adopted the following resolutions:

WHEREAS, A daily PEOPLE has become an absolute necessity to counteract the false and falsified "news" that the capitalist press sets afloat, and to spread enlightenment in the ranks of the working class upon the Labor Question, and to prepare it to deal intelligently with the Social Revolution that is inevitable and is impending;

WHEREAS, The urgency of such a weapon of political and economic warfare in the English language against the plundering class of the capitalist is felt with increasing force, and the demand therefor becomes stronger by the day;

WHEREAS, The undertaking would result disastrously if not successfully put through;

WHEREAS, To make success certain, the paper must be able to survive two consecutive campaigns, that is to say, must appear daily during the period of at least thirteen consecutive months, absolutely independent, firm and uncompromising;

WHEREAS, The sum of not less than \$50,000 in hand is necessary to safely launch such an undertaking;

WHEREAS, Despite the general sense of the necessity of a daily English organ of labor, the collections for it have hitherto been slight; and

WHEREAS, It is evident that, so long as the foundation of such a paper seems indefinitely distant, the contributions will continue slight, while, on the contrary, if its foundation can appear prompt and definite it is likely that ample funds could be promptly gathered; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That a call be issued to the stalwarts, friends and sympathizers, to pledge themselves in the number of 5,000 to contribute each the sum of \$10, payable between the issuing of this call and the 1st day of September, 1897;

RESOLVED, That, if by that date the sum of not less than \$50,000 is cash in hands of the DAILY PEOPLE Committee, a DAILY PEOPLE be started forthwith on October 1st, 1897;

RESOLVED, That this call be printed in the party press of all languages; that subscription lists, headed with these resolutions, be issued to all the Sections and all applicants; and that the names of the subscribers, together with the sum subscribed by each and the installments in which the same is to be paid, be promptly notified to the Committee for publication from week to week.

Are there in the land 5,000 stalwarts equal to the emergency, ready to step up and to mount that needed and redoubt-

able battery of the Social Revolution in America—a DAILY PEOPLE?

Daily People Committee,  
184 William St.,  
N. Y. City.

|   |              |  |
|---|--------------|--|
| J. Chernoff, N. Y.                        | \$10 payable | \$1.50 a month from February 15.                 |
| Morris Steinberg, N. Y.                   | 10 "         | \$1.50 a month from February 15.                 |
| W. R. Taylor, Brooklyn.                   | 10 "         | June 5.  |
| Louis Goldstein, University, Germantown.  | 10 "         | 10.  |
| Simon Fried, Hartford, Ct.                | 10 "         | \$1.00 a month from March 1, \$4.00 Sept. 1.     |
| Joseph Doetzler, Brooklyn.                | 10 "         | \$2.00 a month from April 1.                     |
| E. E. Etzel, Cleveland.                   | 10 "         | August 1.  |
| A. Simonet, Cleveland.                    | 20 "         | \$1. Cash, \$2 a month from Feb. 1, \$5 Sept. 1. |
| Robert Barthel, Cleveland.                | 10 "         | May 15.  |
| J. H. Foster, Cleveland.                  | 10 "         | \$5.00 June 1, \$5.00 August 1.                  |
| Hector Schatzkin, Cleveland.              | 10 "         | December 1.                                      |
| P. C. Christiansen, Cleveland.            | 10 "         | \$1.00 Cash, \$5.00 July 1.                      |
| H. G. Hassemer, Detroit.                  | 10 "         | Cash.  |
| Max Therman, Neenah, Wis.                 | 10 "         | \$5.00 July 1, \$5.00 August 1.                  |
| Bruno Thome, Brooklyn.                    | 10 "         | \$1.00 a month from February 1, \$3 Sept. 1.     |
| Alex Krueger, Litchfield, Neb.            | 10 "         | August 15.                                       |
| Section Adams, Mass.                      | 10 "         | May 1.   |
| Amer. Hebrew, Section San Francisco, Cal. | 10 "         | August 1.  |
| Carl Koenig, Boston.                      | 10 "         | \$5.00 July 1, \$5.00 Sept. 1.                   |
| L. Renthal, N. Y.                         | 10 "         | \$1.00 June 1, \$5.00 July 1.                    |
| William Black, N. Y.                      | 10 "         | \$1.00 July 1.                                   |
| Total this week.....                      | .....        | .....  |

The \$5 credited to P. C. Christiansen, Cleveland, Ohio, in last week's report of payments should be credited to A. Behnke, Cleveland, Ohio.

Pledgers will please keep in mind the dates on which their payments fall due, as per printed list, and remit promptly. If any error appears on the list, correct with equal promptness.

THE DAILY PEOPLE COMMITTEE,  
184 William St., N. Y.

day afternoon Comrade Allman lectures. Subject: "St. Simon and Babœuf." The public is invited.

M. B. SHATZKIN,  
Corresponding Secy.

PARLIAMENTS OF LABOR.

D. A. No. 1.

(CENTRAL LABOR FEDERATION OF N. Y.)

Delegate M. Kronimus, of the United Journeymen Tailors' Union, was chairman at last Sunday's meeting of the N. Y. Central Labor Federation (D. A. No. 1, S. T. & L. A.), and delegate H. Finkenstein, of the Carl Sahn Club, was vice-chairman.

Ale and Porter Union No. 1 reported having resolved to attend the "Arbeiter Zeitung" Festival this Saturday in a body, with the flag, at the Grand Central Palace.

Independent Bakers' Union No. 1 reported having voted for F. W. Wilson as member to the G. E. B., and Boston, Mass., for the next convention of the S. T. & L. A. The union also decided to furnish a large and handsome cake for the "Arbeiter Zeitung" festival, which is to be raffled for its benefit.

Independent Bakers' Union No. 2 reported that boss Leopold sent for union labels on Saturday. Their Executive Board suspended br. 3 as the same owes br. 2 and the National Alliance dues for a year.

Furriers' Union reported having held a well attended meeting on Saturday. A committee from the C. L. F. was present, urging that the festival of the "Motte," booked for Saturday, be postponed on account of the "Arbeiter Zeitung" festival. The union promised to use its influence in this matter. This union voted for Lawrence Fischer, of the C. L. F., Newark, as member of the G. E. B., and for Newark, N. J., as the place for the convention of the S. T. & L. A.

Walters' Alliance Liberty reported that two members had applied for re-admission. By a large majority it was decided to impose a fine of \$10 each, and both must pay the back dues and assessments.

Empire City Lodge Machinists reported gaining many members. They voted for Lawrence Fischer as member of the G. E. B. and for Boston, Mass., for the convention. The union will attend the "Arbeiter Zeitung" festival this Saturday in a body. An advertisement was given the journal of the Progressive Workmen of North New York.

A spirited debate ensued on the subject of the tactics so long pursued by the C. L. F. Delegates of the Ale and Porter No. 1, Empire City Lodge, Furriers, Silver Workers, P. A. Int. Piano-makers, etc., participated.

The committee which visited Ind.

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PHOTOGRAPHER.  
Photos taken in all styles. Every picture taken at Feinberg's is a work of art. Special low rates for Organizations, Singing Societies and leaders of "THE PEOPLE" who show the adv.

## SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY

OF THE

## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

## PLATFORM.

The Socialist Labor Party of the United States, in Convention assembled, re-affirms the inalienable right of all men to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

With the founders of the American republic we hold that the purpose of government is to secure every citizen in the enjoyment of this right; but in the light of our social conditions we hold, furthermore, that no such right can be exercised under a system of economic inequality, essentially destructive of life, of liberty and of happiness.

With the founders of this republic we hold that the true theory of politics is that the machinery of government must be owned and controlled by the whole people; but in the light of our industrial development we hold, furthermore, that the true theory of economics is that the machinery of production must likewise belong to the people in common.

To the obvious fact that our despotic system of economics is the direct opposite of our democratic system of politics, can plainly be traced the existence of a privileged class, the corruption of government by that class, the alienation of public property, public franchises and public functions to that class, and the abject dependence of the mightiest of nations upon that class.

Again, through the perversion of democracy to the ends of plutocracy, labor is robbed of the wealth which it alone produces, is denied the means of self-employment, and, by compulsory idleness in wage slavery, is even deprived of the necessities of life.

Human power and natural forces are thus wasted, that the plutocracy may rule.

Ignorance and misery, with all their concomitant evils, are perpetuated, that the people may be kept in bondage.

Science and invention are diverted from their humane purpose to the enslavement of women and children.

Against such a system the Socialist Labor Party once more enters its protest. Once more it reiterates its fundamental declaration that private property in the natural sources of production and in the instruments of labor is the obvious cause of all economic servitude and political dependence.

The time is fast coming when, in the natural course of social evolution, this system, through the destructive action of its failures and crises on the one hand, and the constructive tendencies of its trusts and other capitalistic combinations on the other hand, shall have worked out its own downfall.

We, therefore, call upon the wage workers of the United States, and upon all other honest citizens, to organize under the banner of the Socialist Labor Party into a class-conscious body, aware of its rights and determined to conquer them by taking possession of the public powers; so that, held together by an indomitable spirit of solidarity under the most trying conditions of the present class struggle, we may put a summary end to that barbarous struggle by the abolition of classes, the restoration of the land and of all the means of production, transportation and distribution to the people as a collective body, and the substitution of the Co-operative Commonwealth for the present state of planless production, industrial war and social disorder; a commonwealth in which every worker shall have the free exercise and full benefit of his faculties, multiplied by all the modern factors of civilization.

## RESOLUTIONS.

With a view to immediate improvement in the condition of labor we present the following demands:

1. Reduction of the hours of labor in proportion to the progress of production.

2. The United States to obtain possession of the mines, railroads, canals, telegraphs, telephones and all other means of public transportation and communication; the employees to operate the same co-operatively under control of the Federal government and to elect their own superior officers, but no employee shall be discharged for political reasons.

3. The municipalities to obtain possession of the local railroads, ferries, water works, gas works, electric plants and all industries requiring municipal franchises; the employees to operate the same co-operatively under control of the municipal administration and to elect their own superior officers, but no employee shall be discharged for political reasons.

4. The public lands to be declared inalienable. Revocation of all land grants to corporations or individuals, the conditions of which have not been complied with.

5. The United States to have the exclusive right to issue money.

6. Congressional legislation providing for the scientific management of forests and waterways, and prohibiting the waste of the natural resources of the country.

7. Inventions to be free to all; the inventors to be remunerated by the nation.

8. Progressive income tax and tax on inheritances; the smaller incomes to be exempt.

9. School education of all children under fourteen years of age to be compulsory, gratuitous and accessible to all by public assistance in meals, clothing, books, etc., where necessary.